

Please cancel claims 2 and 4 without prejudice.

- 1. (Amended) A method for evaluating the morphogenic activity of a candidate morphogenic protein or analog thereof, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) creating, for purposes of the evaluation, a local permissive defect site in a mammal,
- (b) administering said candidate morphogenic protein or analog systemically to said mammal at a site distal from the local permissive defect site,
- (c) measuring the ability of the candidate protein or analog to induce new tissue formation at said defect site, and
- (d) comparing the ability of said candidate with the ability of a control to perform the same function.
- 3. (Amended) A method for evaluating an optimal dosage of a candidate morphogenic protein or analog thereof for administering to a mammal, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) creating, for purposes of the avaluation, a local permissive defect site in a mammal,
- (b) administering said candidate inorphogenic protein or analog systemically to said mammal at a site distal from the local permissive defect site,
- (c) measuring the ability of the candidate protein or analog to induce new tissue formation at said defect site, and
- (d) comparing the ability of said candidate with the ability of a control to perform the same function.
- 16. (Amended) The method of claims 1 or 3 wherein said morphogenic protein or analog is administered at least six hours after the creation of said defect.
- 17. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said morphogenic protein or analog is administered at least 24 hours after the creation of said defect.

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